

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 11780 121155Z

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LIMDIS

SEOUL PASS DEP ASSISTANT SECRETARY SNEIDER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JA, VN

SUBJECT: JAPAN - NORTH VIETNAM RELATIONS

REF: TOKYO 11632

1. I TOOK OPPORTUNITY OF MEETING ON OTHER MATTERS (SEPTTEL) WITH FONOFF VICE MINISTER HOGEN SEPTEMBER 11 TO RAISE QUESTION OF STATUS OF GOJ DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS NEGOTIATIONS WITH DRV. HOGEN RESPONDED THAT GOJ AMBASSADOR NAKAYAMA AND DRV CHARGE RECENTLY HELD THIRD MEETING IN PARIS (DATE UNSPECIFIED), AT WHICH DRV WITHDREW INSISTENCE ON AGREEMENT ON VARIOUS MATTERS AS PRECONDITIONS FOR ESTABLISHMENT DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. DRV STILL WANTS COMMUNIQUE BUT OTHER POINTS COMPLETELY SET ASIDE. FONOFF HAS INSTRUCTED NAKAYAMA TO PROCEED AND HOGEN EXPECTED TWO SIDES WOULD REACH FINAL AGREEMENT FOR NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS, PROBABLY ON OR ABOUT SEPTEMBER 20. IN ARGUMENTATION WITH DRV, JAPANESE SIDE POINTED OUT DRV HAD NOT RPT NOT INSISTED ON CONDITIONS IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH BRITISH,

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SECRET

PAGE 02 TOKYO 11780 121155Z

POINT THAT APPARENTLY HAD DESIRED EFFECT.

2. HOGEN STATED THAT EVEN IF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHED THIS MONTH, GOJ WOULD RESPOND TO EXPECTED DRV REQUESTS FOR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE MERELY BY SENDING TEAMS OF SPECIALISTS TO STUDY FEASIBILITY OF VARIOUS PROJECTS. GOJ RECOGNIZES U.S. POINT THAT PROVISION OF AID TO DRV AT THIS STAGE WOULD RELAX PRESSURE ON DRV TO ABIDE BY PARIS AGREEMENTS, BUT HOGEN SAID ANY JAPANESE AID WOULD TAKE QUOTE SOME TIME UNQUOTE TO BECOME REALITY. HOGEN PROMISED TO KEEP EMBASSY INFORMED AS MATTER PROGRESSES.

3. I COMMENTED THAT I UNDERSTOOD GVN CONTINUED TO BE CONCERNED THAT DRV STILL SERIOUSLY VIOLATING PARIS ACCORDS AND THAT IT MIGHT MAKE ITS CONCERN PUBLIC, FACT THAT GOJ MAY FIND EMBARRASSING IN GTJ-DRV TALKS. HOGEN GAVE NO INDICATION HE KNEW OF GVN EVIDENCE OF NVN VIOLATIONS OF AGREEMENTS, RELEASED BY GVN EMBASSY IN TOKYO SHORTLY AFTER MY MEETING WITH HOGEN. HE COMMENTED, HOWEVER, THAT FIRM U.S. POSITION OF INSISTENCE ON NVN ADHERENCE TO AGREEMENTS MIGHT HAVE BEEN FACTOR IN DRV JETTISONING CONDITIONS TO ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH JAPAN -- A DEVELOPMENT THAT HAS MILDLY PUZZLED GOJ. I INFORMED HOGEN THAT IN LIGHT OF CURRENT SITUATION IN SVN, USG IS NOT PURSUING TALKS RE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE WITH DRV.

4. IN FINAL COMMENT THIS SUBJECT, HOGEN SAID GOJ FEELS IT MAY BE HELPFUL IN COMMON INTEREST OF PERSUADING DRV TO ADHERE TO PARIS ACCORDS TO HAVE JAPANESE SURVEY TEAMS VISIT NVN AND HAVE PERMANENT PROFESSIONAL MISSION RESIDENT IN HANOI. SAID JAPANESE HAVE IMPRESSION PRICKLY, DIFFICULT NORTH VIETNAMESE MAY BECOME EASIER TO DEAL WITH IF THEY ARE EXPOSED MORE TO OUTSIDE WORLD.
INGERSOLL

NOTE BY OC/T: DISTRIBUTION PER SS-O, MR. WRIGHT.

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